Setting up of an international drug facility

20. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had made any demand for setting up of an international drug facility in the recently held UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS from 24-27 June, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) which are the other countries supported this idea?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) The UN General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS from 24-27th June adopted a declaration of commitment on HIV/AIDS, which also includes setting up of a global fund for HIV/AIDS and health. India is a signatory of the declaration. The detailed report is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 193, Annexure No. 6].

Upgradation of Primary Health Centres in Meghalaya

21. SHRI ONWARD L. NONGTDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to upgrade the existing primary health centres in the State of Meghalaya;

(b) if so, the details of such centres identified in the State for the said purpose;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the details of funds received from the World Bank and WHO for upgradation of the existing PHCs in the State during the last three years; and

(e) the total fund utilized, so far, for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) to (c) Upgradation of Primary Health Centres is the responsibility of the respective State Government.

The Government has advised the State Governments to augment the numbers of Community Health Centres/Hospitals by upgrading 25% of their Primary Health Centres, and further that care should be exercised to select those PHCs and CHSs for upgrading, which do not have referral facilities within reasonable distance.

(d) and (e) Under the World Bank funded Reproductive and Child Health Programme, an amount of Rs. 4.07 crores has been released since 1997 to the State of Meghalaya for strengthening of Primary Health care infrastructure. Meghalaya has reported an expenditure of Rs. 1.89 crores since 1997.

Decline in birth rate of girl child

†22. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that birth rate of girl child is decreasing continuously;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the reasons of decline in the birth rate;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the measures being taken to increase the birth rate of girl child?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. C.P. THAKUR): (a) Yes Sir, the provisional figures of Census 2001 reveal that the sex ratio in the 0-6 age group has declined from 945 in 1991 to 927 in 2001.

(b) to (d) Some of the important reasons for decline in the sex ratio are:—

- Neglect of the girl child resulting in their higher mortality at younger ages;
- High maternal mortality;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.